

"BEN HUR."

"Austri: Description of Its Production by an ex-Ocalaian."

[NOTE.—The following description of Ben Hur is from a letter written by Mrs. Blair S. Bernard, of Pensacola, to her mother, Mrs. Beatrice Marcan, of this city.—Ed. BANNER.]

"After a good deal of persuasion I finally resolved to leave Marean at home with his aunt and accompany Mr. Bernard [to Mobile] to witness the greatest production ever staged, namely, Ben Hur, [Lew Wallace's story of Christ. We left home Sunday night and arrived in Mobile at 4 o'clock on Monday morning; went to the Battle House, which is the most elegant hotel in the city and as large as the Tampa Bay hotel at Tampa. Blair had left orders that we were not to be called early; and when we came down to our daintily prepared and tastefully served breakfast the hour hand was nearing 10 o'clock.

"After breakfast we drove out to take a look at the city; as it was my first visit there I was much surprised at its immensity. We had taken pride in the thought that our Pensacola is getting to be quite a large city, but really, when compared to Mobile it seems little more than a country village.

"Eight o'clock Monday night found us in our seats in the opera house ready for the play, and most assuredly we found it all that is claimed for it.

"The company carries four hundred and fifty people, nine horses, two Roman chariots and one camel. The chariot race between Ben Hur and Massala was the most exciting and realistic thing I ever saw on the stage. Each had four horses in his chariot; those of Ben Hur being coal black, and those of his rival milk white, and all were beautiful beyond description.

The scene where Christ passes through Jerusalem and heals the lepers is overpowering in its grandeur and solemnity. One never sees Christ in person in the play, but one knows instinctively when He is supposed to be on the Mount of Olives and then the lepers flock to Him to be healed, and a chorus of three hundred voices, male and female, with the characters dressed in the artistic Grecian costume, and each character carrying a beautiful palm, sing, 'Hail to Jesus of Nazareth' and the lepers kneel in the shadows until the anthem is finished.

"Then a light so radiant that for a moment it is dazzling in its effect is thrown on the scene and the lepers are healed and rise to their feet rejoicing, and the applause from the vast audience sinks into a low deep murmur while the music is so soft, sweet and impressive that for a few moments one imagines oneself anywhere except in a theater, from the sacred emotions the indescribable scene has inspired."

National Bible Conference to be Held in Gainesville, Feb. 5th to 9th.

The city is making great preparations for the coming bible conference. The conference of last year was a great success, many visitors attending from all parts of the country. Among the many great preachers on the program are: D. J. Wilbur Chapman (Presbyterian); Dr. Len G. Broughton (Baptist) Atlanta, Ga.; Dr. D. V. Gwilym (Episcopalian) New York; Dr. W. D. Blackstone (Methodist) Chicago; Prof. J. R. C. Brown, Virginia; Dr. E. I. D. Pepper, Philadelphia; Rev. Geo. R. Stuart (Methodist) Tennessee; Dr. A. C. Dixon (Baptist) Boston; Dr. Clarence R. Strouse and many others.

The railroads have granted special rates to the conference. Tickets on Tuesdays, Thursdays and Saturdays. A very cheap rate for board is offered.

The conference offers a great opportunity to the citizens of Florida. Many Florida pastors attended last year. An invitation is extended to all clergymen of the state by the pastors of Gainesville.

If you desire further details as to entertainment, etc., write Mr. Ferdinand Bayer, secretary.—Gainesville Star.

A big line of boys knee pants large sizes, get our prices. The Ocala Bazaar, Gadson.

"SOME FLORIDA INCIDENTS."

To the Editor of the Ocala Banner.

Time, with his slow but ceaseless roll, has counted twenty-five full centuries since the heroic Spartans, under the brave Leonidas, met the Persian hordes under Xerxes, and covered the pass of Thermopylae with eternal celebrity.

The heroic conduct of that little Spartan band is repeated in every tongue and is known of every school boy throughout the world.

The charge of the "Light Brigade" at Balaklava, under the leadership of the Earl of Cardigan, has been made immortal by Lord Tennyson's heroic poem—

"Their's not to reason why,
Their's not to do or die"

will be read around the hearthstone and declaimed in the schoolroom as long as the English language is spoken.

Lord Macaulay has drawn such a vivid picture of the "Black Hole" into which one hundred and forty-six English prisoners were thrust by Surajah Dowlah, the Nabob of India, and all but twenty-three suffocated in a manner so heartrending that the very mention of the name even now causes one to shiver as he reads the sickening details.

"Nothing in history or fiction," says Macaulay, "not even the story which Ugolino told in the sea of everlasting ice, after he had wiped his bloody lips on the scalp of his murderer, approaches the horrors which were recounted by the few survivors of that night."

After suffering untold agonies the prisoners went mad with despair.

So, likewise, has every school boy heard of the Alamo where one hundred and forty Texans, met an attack of four thousand Mexicans under Santa Anna, and after days of hardship and suffering, sacrificed their lives almost to a man preferring to share with their dauntless leader, the brave Colonel Travis, "death or surrender!"

For the Black Hole and the Alamo, Florida has her "blockhouse," and for her Thermopylae and Balaklava, she has her massacre of Major Dade and his whole command save one who alone was left to tell the heroic story.

Yet how unknown are these two incidents even to the average Florida reader!

In the progress of the Seminole Indian war Captain Halliman, with a small detachment of volunteer soldiers, was left on the banks of the Withlacoochee river, and in the non-delivery or confusion of orders, forgotten, and left to the mercy of the savages.

Quickly perceiving their perilous fate these soldiers hastily erected a blockhouse and determined to sell their lives as dearly as possible.

For more than two months this little band was kept awake by the almost constant "war whoop" of their savage assailants and day and night bravely repelled their attacks.

Once the Indians succeeded in setting the building on fire and the roof was partly burned off before the heroic little band could stay the progress of the flames and while some were furiously fighting fire the others had their unerring rifles leveled at their yelling assailants.

During all this long and perilous siege this little band subsisted almost solely on parched corn and when finally rescued by Colonel Leigh Read, whose bravery deserves a separate chapter, they were reduced to the last extremity and were now without even water to quench their thirst.

No severer suffering, no braver defense, is anywhere recorded in history.

And how little known, too, is the almost total annihilation of Major Dade, and his entire command, consisting of one hundred and thirty-nine men.

Unexpectedly attacked by a horde of yelling, half naked savages, who emerge from their hiding places like so many devils arising from the bowels of the lower regions, in an unprotected, open plain, under these conditions, what is the behavior of this little patriot band?

The average man, under similar circumstances, would become panic stricken and paralyzed with fear, but these men do not blanch, neither stampede nor flee. Those who do not fall at the first fire, stand firm and unflinching, quickly get together, form a compact body, load their muskets, unlimber their one six pound cannon, and fight until every man is slain but one and he sorely wounded and feigning death.

Thousands have been fascinated by Macaulay's charming description of Clive's and Hastings' wonderful exploits in India; likewise thousands have been thrilled by Victor Hugo's graphic description of the battle of Waterloo and Gordon's vivid picture of Pickett's charge at Gettysburg, but for cool, deliberate bravery, fortitude and courage, the two incidents here narrated may have been many times equalled, but have never been surpassed in any of the crimson stories of war.

OLD TIMER.

A very peculiar story is told in a recent issue of the New York World. A young boy was accused by his uncle of stealing a diamond ring valued at a hundred dollars and was sent to the state juvenile reformatory for three years. The baby it seems put the ring on the cat's tail when a kitten. It has just been discovered that the curious malformation of the cat's tail was caused by the diamond ring. The whole tenor of the boy's life has been changed and perhaps ruined.

Claus Gadson, an aged negro who was born at Fairfield, South Carolina, in September 1788, died a few days ago near Anthony. He was the oldest man in the state and probably as old as any one in the country.

Violation of the revised statutes against selling liquor without a license in the dry counties is engaging a large part of the time of the United States court.

Quincy has had two sensations in one week. A prominent young business man skipped the town and the principal of the high school mysteriously disappeared.

A gentleman in Wyoming thinks he ought to be made the American poet laureate. He has discovered that "gloaming" rhymes with Wyoming.

The good roads convention began its session in Jacksonville on the 19th and will continue until tomorrow.

And so Judge Don Pardee, at this late date, attempts to hoist the bloody shirt. Ey, fy, judge!

Our new embroidery will arrive this week. Watch our counter for bargains. The Ocala Bazaar, Gadson.

FALL RIVER STRIKE ENDED.

Mill Operatives Go Back to Work at Reduced Wages.

Boston, Jan. 19.—The strike of the cotton mill operatives at Fall River was settled at a conference here today.

The conference was held at the state house, representatives of the manufacturers and operatives having met under an arrangement made by Governor Douglas.

The strike began July 25, 1904, when the manufacturers posted notices of a 12 1/2 per cent reduction of wages.

At a conference held here last Wednesday, was without effect, but the conference today was authorized to make a settlement.

By the settlement agreement the operatives will return to work at once under the reduction. The question of the margin between raw material and manufactured goods which shall be required by the manufacturers, is left to be adjusted by Governor Douglas.

Fall River, Mass., Jan. 19.—The cotton mills strike which began here on July 25, 1904, was the greatest disturbance the textile industry of America has ever known. When the mills involved were obliged to close their gates about 25,000 operatives were thrown out of work. Seventy-one mills controlled by 33 corporations, stopped the machinery and it remained idle until the middle of November, since which time most of the factories have been running generally with less than one half the usual force. The strike was directly due to a reduction of 12 1/2 per cent in wages. The mills had reduced wages 10 per cent eight months previously.

Under the second reduction the standard price for weaving was 17.32 cents per cut. The last cut was not met by the six mills of the Fall River Iron works, an independent concern. The yarn and thread mills, the Barnaby Gingham and Stevens' quilt mills were also out of the wage reduction agreement.

The mills affected by the strike have a combined capital of \$25,000,000 and have 2,300,000 spindles. During the month the mills were shut down the operatives lost nearly \$150,000 weekly, and the corporations about \$25,000. The aggregate direct losses to all interests up to today is estimated at fully \$5,000,000. The indirect losses were also considerable.

Postmistress in Jail.

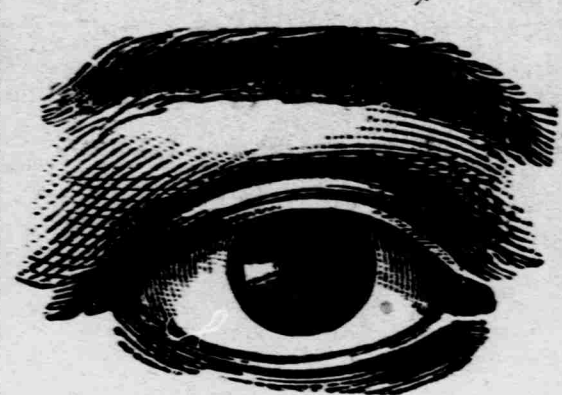
New Haven, Jan. 13.—Margaret A. Toomey, formerly postmaster at Leets Island, was bound over to the United States court on a charge of embezzlement after a hearing before United States Commissioner William A. Wright. She went to jail in default of bonds of \$1,000. It is alleged that Mrs. Toomey's office accounts were found to be short to the extent of \$350.

Captain and Crew Drowned.

Miami, Fla., Jan. 19.—The Spanish bark El Victoria, with a crew of 16 men from Tampico, Mexico, to Fernandina, Fla., went ashore near Palm Beach yesterday afternoon. The captain and 10 men of the crew were drowned while attempting to reach the shore.

BY SPECIAL REQUEST

Dr. Goldstein Returns Here Jan. 29, and Will Remain a Few Days Longer.



Office in the Ocala House Where They Will Be For a Few Days.

Many persons do not see as well as they should. Some see well but their eyes become tired. Others suffer with headache, constantly or periodically, which medicine does not relieve, because the headache comes from the eye strain, and the only remedy is a pair of glasses properly fitted by one who understands the eyes, their defects and their relations to human ills.

Do you value your eyesight?

Then don't put off wearing glasses unless you know they fit and are doing you good. No two persons have eyes JUST alike.

WE EXAMINE YOUR EYES FREE OF CHARGE.

And when we say examine them, we mean a thorough examination—as complete as can be had anywhere at any price. We explain to you what your trouble is. You get the benefit of our experience and knowledge free.

YOUR CHILD'S EYESIGHT.

You are responsible for the sight of your child. Watch out for frowns, for squints. When he reads or studies, does he suffer with headache, particularly after studying? The eye is perfectly developed at the age of ten, and should there be any defect it should be corrected at that time. We cordially invite you to bring the children in. You may save them a lifetime of strain and weak sight. It is a duty which you owe to your child, and we DON'T CHARGE FOR ADVISING YOU.

The Eyes.

The eyes are at once delicate and tough. Delicate because of the functions they perform; tough, as to the endurance they exhibit under the maltreatment they receive from both their possessors and many of those claiming to be competent to give them proper attention.

Eye Strain.

More headache and nervousness is caused by eye strain than all other causes combined. Good vision is absolutely no proof that the eyes are good. Many readers of this article can see perfectly, but they suffer from nervous ills of one kind or another and never think their eyes are the cause of it all. They may have taken medicine without getting relief, or may have suffered thinking there was no remedy.

TO RELIEVE THE EFFECT WE MUST REMOVE THE CAUSE.

Glasses which make unnecessary the strain on the nerve is the only relief, and must be worn constantly.

Nature's Warning.

In almost every instance when there is some derangement of any of our organs, nature gives us warning, and if we neglect the danger signal we must suffer the consequences. When the eye is defective nature has many ways of letting us know. The eyes become tired more or less easily, the lids become inflamed when the eyes are used, or when exposed to the air; the eyes ache and water easily, and it becomes necessary to rest them often. Sometimes the eyes adhere in the morning, and in other cases reading is followed by violent headache. **TO RELIEVE THE EFFECT WE MUST REMOVE THE CAUSE, and the cause is EYE STRAIN.** Glasses which make strain unnecessary will remove the cause, but they must be fitted by one who understands the eyes and their defects.



Proper Glasses and Proper Frames

It is of great importance that glasses should be properly ground and centered and of the best quality. The frames must be so fitted that they will hold the lenses in place so there will be no damage to the eyes from a lack of harmony between the center of the lenses and those of the eyes. Many otherwise good pieces of work have been a failure from this cause alone.

Office hours from 9:30 to 3:00.

The tax books rarely reveal a millionaire. In New York the tax books show only eight and in Ocala not one. And yet one with his eyes open would think that we at least had half dozen.

A severe ship wreck occurred off Palm Beach January 18. The captain and ten men were drowned while attempting to reach the shore.

And now Judge Don Pardee is sorry that he "batted in." The "warming up" Bourke Cockran gave him was great.

**The Natural Result**

of bread baking where Banquet Flour is employed is of the prize winning, health bringing order. Housewives who have used the Banquet brand longest speak in highest terms of its merits as a bread baker and pie and cake maker. They know it never fails them.

THE FAIR. B. L. Hall, Prop.
Ocala, Fla.

Strauss' Royal Reserve.

OCALA MINING LABORATORY.

F. T. SCHREIBER.

Consulting and Analytical Chemist. Member of the Society of Chemical Industry, London, Eng. Member of the American Chemical Society.
P. O. Box 703.

OCALA, FLA., Oct. 22, 1904.

Messrs. Strauss & Co., Wholesale Whisky Merchants, Ocala, Fla.

Gentlemen.— In accordance with your instructions, I visited your warehouse on the 19th, instant, and personally selected from your stock a sample of

"Strauss' Royal Reserve"

whisky, the analysis of which shows it to contain:

Alcohol (by weight), per cent.....	36.66
Alcohol (by volume), per cent.....	43.61
Degree proof, per cent.....	87.10
Residue on evaporation, p cent.....	0.660
Ash, per cent.....	0.011
Reducing sugar, per cent.....	0.225
Volatile acids, per cent.....	0.027
Amyl alcohol (fusel oil), per cent.....	0.073

The above results show the whisky to be a carefully blended brand of high grade

and that it has been distilled from a clean, pure grain mash. The amount of fusel oil and of volatile acids is very low.

Respectfully,

F. T. SCHREIBER, Chemist.

FOUR FULL QUARTS \$3.50 EXPRESS PREPAID.

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Sole Owners and Distributors.

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We are proud to say that we sell at the lowest factory prices.

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